

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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Philippines Biotechnology Philippine Low Level Presence Policy 2009

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Report Highlights:

The Philippine Department of Agriculture recently approved Administrative Order No. 1 which adopts Annex 3 to the Codex Plant Guideline for the conduct of food safety assessment in situations of low-level presence of recombinant-DNA plant materials in food and feed.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Trade Report Manila [RP1] Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Arthur C. Yap recently signed Administrative Order No. 1 (AO No. 1) Series of 2009 which adopts Annex 3 to the Codex Plant Guideline, "Food Safety Assessment in Situations of Low-Level Presence of Recombinant-DNA Plant Material in Food", for the conduct of food safety assessment in situations of low-level presence of recombinant-DNA plant materials in food and feed.

AO No. 1 likewise directs the DA's concerned policy and regulatory offices to clarify issues and formulate guidelines necessary to implement AO No. 1 under the leadership of the DA's Office of Policy and Planning.

Lastly, AO No. 1 orders the implementation of an institutional capability program for the DA's regulatory agencies to enhance its technical capabilities to undertake the appropriate regulatory action.

AO No. 1 takes effect 30 days after its publication in a newspaper of national circulation.